Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claim 1. (Previously presented) A feeding and picking device for feeding and picking a standing agricultural crop wherein individual plants in the crop are provided with plant stalks, the feeding and picking device comprising a picking device and a rotating feeding element that is rotated in a circle about a vertical axis and comprises a body with outwardly extending fingers, the rotating feeding element grasps plant stalks and directs the plant stalks to the picking device which separates useable parts from plant stalks, the picking device having an effective length, wherein rotating feeding element is designed to transport the plant throughout the effective length of the picking device and further wherein the picking device is provided with an inlet, the inlet being located in front of the vertical axis of the feeding element.

Claim 2. (Previously presented). A feeding and picking device for feeding and picking a standing agricultural crop wherein individual plants in the crop are provided with plant stalks, the feeding and picking device comprising a picking device and a rotating feeding element that is rotated in a circle about a vertical axis and comprises a body with outwardly extending fingers, the rotating feeding element grasps plant stalks and directs the plant stalks to the picking device which separates useable parts from plant stalks, wherein the feeding element is designed to support the plant stalk while it is being processed by the picking device, and further wherein the picking device is provided with an inlet, the inlet being located in front of the vertical axis of the feeding element.

Claim 3. (Original) A feeding and picking device as defined by claim 1 wherein the picking device is provided with a snapping channel, the feeding element covers the snapping channel.

Claim 4. (Previously presented) A feeding and picking device as defined by claim 3 wherein gaps are formed between the outwardly extending fingers, plant stalks are captured in the gaps, the gaps are sufficiently deep to ensure that they pass over the snapping channel of the picking device.

Claim 5. (Previously presented) A feeding and picking device as defined by claim 4 wherein the feeding and picking device is provided with two rotating feeding elements, an upper feeding element and a lower feeding element, the upper feeding element has a direction of rotation, the upper feeding element is provided with outwardly extending fingers that are curved away from the direction of rotation.

Claim 6. (Previously presented) A feeding and picking device as defined by claim 5 wherein the lower feeding element is located beneath the upper feeding element.

Claim 7. (Original) A feeding and picking device as defined by claim 6 wherein the lower feeding element has a direction of rotation that is identical to the direction of rotation of the upper feeding element.

Claim 8. (Currently amended) A feeding and picking device for feeding and picking a standing agricultural crop wherein individual plants in the crop are provided with plant stalks, the feeding and picking device comprising a rotating feeding element that is rotated in a circle about a vertical axis and comprises a body with outwardly extending fingers, the rotating feeding element grasps plant stalks and directs the plant stalks to a picking device which separates useable parts from plant stalks, the picking device having an effective length, wherein **the** rotating feeding element is designed to transport the plant throughout the effective length of the picking device, wherein the picking device is provided with a snapping channel, the feeding element covers the snapping channel, wherein gaps are formed between the outwardly extending fingers, plant stalks are captured in the gaps, the gaps are sufficiently deep to ensure that they pass over the snapping channel of the picking device, wherein the feeding and picking device is provided with two rotating feeding elements, an upper feeding element and a lower feeding element, the upper feeding element has a direction of rotation, the upper feeding element is provided with outwardly extending fingers that are curved away from the direction of rotation, wherein the lower feeding element is located beneath the upper feeding element, wherein the lower feeding element has a direction of rotation that is identical to the direction of rotation of the upper feeding element, and wherein the lower feeding element is provided with outwardly extending fingers that are curved towards the direction of rotation.

Claim 9. (Previously presented) A feeding and picking device as defined by claim 8 wherein the picking device is mounted on the side of the feeding element.

Claim 10. (Previously presented) A feeding and picking device as defined by claim 9 wherein the picking device is provided with an inlet, the inlet being located in front of the vertical axis of the feeding element.

Claim 11. (Original) A feeding and picking device as defined by claim 10 wherein the lower feeding element has a lower element diameter and the upper feeding element has an upper element diameter, the lower element diameter is smaller than the upper element diameter.

Claim 12. (Original) A feeding and picking device as defined by claim 10 wherein the lower feeding element has a lower element diameter and the upper feeding element has an upper element diameter, the lower element diameter is equal to the upper element diameter.

Claim 13. (Previously presented) A feeding and picking device as defined by claim 10 wherein the lower feeding element is provided with a lower vertical axis and the upper feeding element is provided with an upper vertical axis, the lower vertical axis and the upper vertical axis are coaxial.

Claim 14. (Canceled).

Claim 15. (Original) A feeding and picking device as defined by claim 10 wherein the upper feeding element has the same number of fingers as the lower feeding element.

Claim 16. (Canceled).

Claim 17. (Original) A feeding and picking device as defined by claim 10 wherein the picking device further comprises a snapping bar and at least one snapping roll, the at least one snapping roll extends parallel to the snapping channel and is mounted under said snapping bar.

Claim 18. (Original) The feeding and picking device as defined by claim 17 wherein said feeding and picking device has a direction of travel, the snapping channel extends parallel to the direction of travel.

Claim 19. (Original) The feeding and picking device as defined by claim 17 wherein said feeding and picking device has a direction of travel, the snapping channel extends at an angle to the direction of travel.

Claim 20. (Previously presented) A crop harvesting machine having at least two feeding and picking devices, wherein each feeding and picking device feeds and picks a standing agricultural crop wherein individual plants in the crop are provided with plant stalks, the feeding and picking device comprising a rotating feeding element that is rotated in a circle about a vertical axis and comprises a body with outwardly extending fingers, the rotating feeding element grasps plant stalks and directs the plant stalks to the picking device which separates useable parts from plant stalks, the picking device having an effective length, wherein the rotating feeding element is designed to transport the plant throughout the effective length of the picking device and further wherein the picking device is provided with an inlet, the inlet being located in front of the vertical axis of the feeding element.

Claim 21. (Original) A crop harvesting machine as defined by claim 20 having a symmetrical line, feeding and picking devices are symmetrically arranged with respect to each other about the symmetrical line.

Claim 22. (Previously presented) The crop harvesting machine of claim 1, wherein the picking device comprises two stalk rolls having forward ends, and further wherein the axis is located behind and to the side of the two forward stalk roll ends.

Claim 23. (Previously presented) The crop harvesting machine of claim 2, wherein the picking device comprises two stalk rolls having forward ends, and further wherein the axis is located behind and to the side of the two forward stalk roll ends.

Claim 24. (Previously presented) The crop harvesting machine of claim 20, wherein the picking device comprises two stalk rolls having forward ends, and further wherein the axis is located behind and to the side of the two forward stalk roll ends.